



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 June 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports a computer system in Atlanta that processes pilots' flights plans and sends them to air-traffic controllers failed late Thursday or early Friday causing untold flight delays Friday, June 8. (See item [16](#))
- The Times Ledger reports Western Queens residents are concerned about an underground petroleum pipeline that runs through five borough neighborhoods to reach LaGuardia Airport, after another fuel pipeline to Kennedy Airport was targeted by four suspected terrorists. (See item [17](#))

### DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 08, The Independent (UK)* — **Scientists produce wireless electricity.** Plugs and cables could become obsolete after scientists devised a way of recharging electrical devices ranging from laptop computers to lights from a distance. A team from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology made a 60-watt light bulb glow using electricity sent wirelessly between copper coils set seven feet apart. Scientists have known for years that electricity can be transferred without wires, but had struggled to find a practical and efficient way of making it work. Professor Marin Soljacic used the concept of resonance. Energy can be efficiently transferred

between objects that resonate at the same frequency, so he used two copper coils, one transmitting and the other receiving power. The breakthrough, which has been dubbed WiTricity, was announced by the researchers in the online version of the journal Science. They believe they are between three and five years away from developing a system which could recharge laptops, mobile phones and other devices wirelessly.

Source: [http://news.independent.co.uk/sci\\_tech/article2631620.ece](http://news.independent.co.uk/sci_tech/article2631620.ece)

2. *June 07, Electric Light & Power* — **Colorful energy orbs used for PG&E's demand response program.** As summer approaches and demand for electricity increases, Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) demonstrated its system wide energy orb demand response technology. The energy orb is designed to help quickly reduce electric load and improve power reliability during critical periods of high energy demand. The orb is equipped with an electronic chip that receives a wireless signal every 15 minutes. When power supplies are adequate, the orb remains solid blue in color. When energy conservation is needed, the signal activates the orb to change colors. Starting last year, PG&E has distributed these orbs to 900 large business customers and plans to distribute another 1,000 orbs later this summer.

Source: [http://uaelp.pennnet.com/display\\_article/294787/22/ARTCL/non e/none/Colorful-energy-orbs-used-for-PG&E](http://uaelp.pennnet.com/display_article/294787/22/ARTCL/non e/none/Colorful-energy-orbs-used-for-PG&E)

3. *June 07, Department of Energy* — **Departments of Energy and Agriculture provide \$8.3 million in funding for biofuels research.** Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Samuel Bodman and Department of Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns Thursday, June 7, announced that their departments have jointly selected 11 projects for awards totaling \$8.3 million for biobased fuels research that will accelerate the development of alternative fuel resources. “These research projects build upon DOE’s strategic investments in genomics and biotechnology and strengthen our commitment to developing a robust bioenergy future vital to America’s energy and economic security,” Secretary Bodman said. “To help meet President Bush's goal to reduce gasoline consumption by 20 percent in ten years, research and alternative fuel production needs to expand beyond corn ethanol,” Secretary Johanns said. “These grants diversify the portfolio of research by looking into new ways to develop cordgrass, rice and switchgrass in renewable energy sources.”

Source: <http://www.energy.gov/news/5115.htm>

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

4. *June 09, The Olympian (WA)* — **Crews cleaning up at wetland after tanker fire, spill.** Cleanup crews were working at a wetland after a tanker loaded with about 10,000 gallons of fuel rolled and caught fire Saturday, June 9, near McCleary, WA. The tank contained about 7,000 gallons of gasoline and 3,000 gallons of diesel, said Bob Warren, an after-hours spill responder for the Department of Ecology. Crews used absorbent pads and a vacuum truck to remove the fuel, but much of it leaked into the soil, Warren said. Crews will excavate contaminated soil to keep as much of the fuel as possible out of the creek, he said.

Source: <http://www.theolympian.com/377/story/130715.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

**5. *June 07, CongressDaily* — Defense orders overhaul of troubled fighting vehicle program.**

Responding to a huge cost jump and persistent reliability problems in one of the Marine Corps' most important acquisition programs, the Pentagon has ordered a major restructuring that will change the contractor's payments, impose significantly greater government supervision and delay operational availability for at least four years, officials announced Thursday, June 7. The decision to modify rather than cancel the troubled Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle program followed a long high-level review triggered by a congressionally mandated cost-control provision known as the Nunn-McCurdy Act. "The bottom line" of the review was that the revolutionary amphibious troop carrier was essential to national security and that "there were no alternatives that would provide equal or greater military capabilities at equal or less cost," said Anthony Melita, director of land warfare programs in the Pentagon's acquisition office. The test vehicles are expected to be delivered by 2010 and a decision on whether to start production of operational EFVs could come late in 2011, said Col. William Taylor, program executive officer for Marine Corps land systems.

Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=37133&dcn=to daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37133&dcn=to%20daysnews)

**6. *June 07, American Forces Press Service* — Defense undersecretary to step down.** The Department of Defense's (DoD) top acquisition official announced Wednesday, June 6, that he is stepping down. Kenneth J. Krieg, undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics is leaving the department to spend more time with his family, officials said in a release. The resignation becomes effective July 20 or upon the confirmation of his successor, whichever comes first, DoD officials said. President Bush nominated Krieg for the Defense Department's top acquisition, technology and logistics position, and the Senate confirmed him to this position in June 2005. In this role, Krieg has been responsible for advising the secretary and deputy secretary of defense on all matters relating to the department's acquisition system, research and development, advanced technology, and developmental testing and evaluation.

Source: <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=46327>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

**7. *June 08, Edmonton Journal (Canada)* — Bank misdirects financial data.** Sherwood Park resident Jean Tate and her husband, Rob, have been mistakenly getting detailed itemized bank statements faxed from the Bank of Montreal's Edmonton branches about once a month for the past three years. Tate said she contacted the bank and tried to correct the problem a year and a half ago, but five months later the problem started again. Bank of Montreal spokesperson Laurie Grant said it appears employees in Edmonton sometimes forget to dial "1" before sending a long-distance fax to the Toronto Fraud and Investigation Division. The branches' fax machines then recognize only the first seven numbers. Toronto's area code — 416 — and the first four numbers of the division's phone number, sending the personal information straight to the Tates' fax machine. The documents sent to the Tates also include account numbers, signatures, MasterCard numbers, phone numbers and addresses. A cover sheet identifies

skimming as the possible fraud being investigated. The bank contacted the federal privacy commissioner's office this week. Investigators will work with the bank to determine what went wrong and what needs to change. If a company fails to incorporate the commission's recommendations, a judge could force the company to pay damages to complainants.

Source: <http://www.canada.com/edmontonjournal/news/cityplus/story.html?id=00fe3f18-26c7-4bf3-8c3b-63be8ea4bcf1>

8. *June 08, Register (UK)* — **DIY kits dumb down phishing.** Phishing kits are helping to dumb down the process of creating fraudulent Websites. Now the increasing prevalence of DIY fraud Website creation kits means setting up a snare for unwary surfers takes about as much effort as setting up a personal Website. Nine in ten (92 percent) of 3,544 new phishing Websites identified by IBM's X-Force security research team last week were the product of phishing kits. Phishing kits, which first arrived on the scene around two years ago, allow attackers with little technical skill to rapidly set up multiple phishing Websites on a single host. Requiring only a small installation footprint, and capable of being seeded with off-the-shelf botnet agents, these phishing kits create a means for hackers to serve up multiple bogus banking Websites on a single compromised host. IBM compares the phenomenon of phishing Websites to the appearance of virus creation toolkits in the late 1990s. IBM's improved analytical techniques have yielded added insight into cybercrime activity. For example, IBM discovered that the 3,256 phishing kit sites tied back to 100 registered domains, almost a half of which were registered in Hong Kong. This compares to the 276 registered domains used by the 288 custom-made phishing Websites.

Source: [http://www.channelregister.co.uk/2007/06/08/phishing\\_kit\\_survey\\_ibm/](http://www.channelregister.co.uk/2007/06/08/phishing_kit_survey_ibm/)

9. *June 08, Department of Treasury* — **Department of Treasury takes additional measures to combat Iranian WMD proliferation.** The U.S. Department of the Treasury Friday, June 8, designated four Iranian companies, Pars Tarash, Farayand Technique, Fajr Industries Group, and Mizan Machine Manufacturing Group, for their role in Iran's proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. This action was taken pursuant to Executive Order 13382, an authority aimed at freezing the assets of proliferators of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their supporters. "So long as Iran continues to pursue a nuclear program in defiance of the international community's calls to halt enrichment, we will continue to hold those responsible to account for their conduct," said Stuart Levey, Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence (TFI).

Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/press/releases/hp447.htm>

10. *June 07, News Journal (MD)* — **Fourteen arrested in bank scam case in Delaware.** Fourteen people were arrested after an 18-month-long-bank fraud investigation, Delaware State Police said. Cpl. John Barnett Jr. said fraud investigators first contacted detectives in May 2006 about numerous fraudulent accounts that had been opened in banks across the state. An investigation determined the fourteen suspects had opened bank accounts using bad checks, and then had withdrawn cash from the accounts before the bad checks could clear. The suspects arrested Wednesday, June 6, collectively obtained between \$80,000 and \$100,000 in cash from multiple branches of five banks in the areas of Seaford, Georgetown, Lewes, Selbyville, Bridgeville, Laurel and Delmar, police allege. Barnett said many, but not all of suspects, were neighbors or lived near each other, which suggests they may have worked together while scamming the banks.

Source: <http://www.delmarvanow.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070607/DW01/70607034/-1/DW>

11. *June 07, Associated Press* — **Wisconsin students hack school employees' personal data.** In Wisconsin, Cedarburg High School students used a school computer to get into confidential information about school employees that had not been properly secured on the district's network, superintendent Daryl Herrick said. The students got the former and current employees' names, addresses and Social Security numbers. According to Herrick, they may have acquired bank account information. School officials discovered the breach Tuesday morning, June 5, after a student told a teacher that students had gotten into the information. The data was secured within two hours, but school officials do not know how long students had access to it, Herrick said. There have been no reports so far of the information being misused.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/462/story/1231570.html>

12. *June 07, Computerworld* — **Retailers fume over PCI security rules.** Several retailers this week bristled at having to comply with the Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standard, complaining that they carry an unfair burden in securing credit card data. At the annual ERIexchange retail event in Boston, MA, executives also complained that implementing the standards is costly and could alienate customers. The companies face heavy fines and increased transaction rates for noncompliance with the PCI standards. Steve Methvin of Bi-Lo LLC, a grocery chain, called on the credit card companies themselves to do more to make cards more secure — such as adding a PIN. He said that the credit card companies have declined to take such steps in order to avoid complaints from customers. “The responsibility for a safe environment is not mutual,” said Methvin. “It seems like we’re being forced to provide an easy experience for Visa and MasterCard at our own expense.” The standards were created by five major credit card companies — Visa International, MasterCard Worldwide, American Express Co., Discover Financial Services LLC and Tokyo-based JCB Co. — to protect credit card data before, during and after transactions, PCI officials said.

Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9023998&intsrc=news\\_list](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9023998&intsrc=news_list)

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

13. *June 08, Department of Homeland Security* — **U.S. citizens with pending passport applications allowed temporary travel flexibility within Western Hemisphere.** The U.S. Departments of State and Homeland Security announced on Friday, June 8, that U.S. citizens traveling to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda who have applied for but not yet received passports can nevertheless temporarily enter and depart from the United States by air with a government issued photo identification and Department of State official proof of application for a passport through September 30, 2007. The federal government is making this accommodation for air travel due to longer than expected processing times for passport applications in the face of record-breaking demand. The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) was mandated by Congress in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to strengthen border security and facilitate entry into the United States for citizens and legitimate international visitors. WHTI requirements for air travel took effect on January 23,



2007. This accommodation does not affect entry requirements to other countries. Americans traveling to a country that requires passports must still present those documents. In January 2008, the departments will begin to implement WHTI at land and sea ports of entry.

U.S. citizens with pending passport applications can obtain proof of application at:

<http://travel.state.gov>

Source: [http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1181311577920.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1181311577920.shtm)

14. *June 08, Department of Transportation* — **Safety standards for cross-border truck program published in Federal Register.** The Department of Transportation published additional details about the rigorous safety standards and inspection program in place for its cross-border trucking demonstration program in a supplemental Federal Register notice on Friday, June 8. The notice includes comprehensive information about the cross-border trucking demonstration program, including pre-authorization safety audits of Mexican trucking companies, which are conducted by U.S. auditors in Mexico. It also details specific measures already in place to protect public health and safety—including roadside inspections, safety ratings, compliance reviews and civil penalties—as well as English language proficiency requirements and a review of U.S. motor carrier safety laws and corresponding Mexican regulations. The supplemental notice is available at <http://dmses.dot.gov/docimages/p101/472439.pdf> and will be open for comment until June 28.
- Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/fmcsa0307.htm>

15. *June 08, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-773R: Federal Aviation Administration: Cost Allocation Practices and Cost Recovery Proposal Compared with Selected International Practices (Correspondence).** Anticipating the expiration of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) current authorization at the end of fiscal year 2007, the administration submitted a proposal on February 14, for reauthorizing FAA and the excise taxes that fund most of its budget. This proposal would introduce cost-based charges for commercial users of air traffic control services, eliminate many current taxes, substantially raise fuel taxes for general aviation users to pay for their use of air traffic control services, and charge commercial and general aviation users a fuel tax to pay primarily for airport capital improvements. The air navigation service providers (ANSP) with cost-based charges that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) reviewed also allocate costs to each of their service categories—although the percentages allocated to each category vary by country—but none of these ANSPs further allocate costs by the type of aircraft used. To recover costs from general aviation users, the administration is proposing a fuel tax of 56.4 cents per gallon for air traffic control services. By contrast, some other ANSPs currently charge users of small general aviation aircraft an annual fee based on such factors as aircraft weight and number of flight operations.
- Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-773R>

16. *June 08, Associated Press* — **FAA computer failure snarls flights.** A computer failure in the nation's air-traffic control system caused untold flight delays Friday, June 8, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said. A computer system in Atlanta that processes pilots' flight plans and sends them to air-traffic controllers failed late Thursday or early Friday, FAA spokesperson Diane Spitaliere said. The agency rerouted the system's functions to another computer in Salt Lake City, which overloaded due to the increased volume of data, magnifying the problem. The FAA could not immediately calculate the number of flight delays caused by

the problem, which was made worse by bad weather, Spitaliere said. Although the computer problem was fixed Friday morning, its impact lingered on into the late afternoon, especially in New York, Spitaliere said.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-08-faa-glitch-delays\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-08-faa-glitch-delays_N.htm)

**17. *June 07, Times Ledger (NY)* — Pipeline to New York's LaGuardia feared vulnerable.**

Western Queens residents were concerned about an underground petroleum pipeline that runs through five borough neighborhoods to reach LaGuardia Airport after another fuel pipeline to Kennedy Airport was targeted by four suspected terrorists. The LaGuardia pipeline originates in Linden, NJ, and runs through Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, Jackson Heights and crosses the Grand Central Parkway to the airport, which is located in East Elmhurst. Four men have been accused of planning to blow up another New Jersey-based pipeline that runs through Brooklyn, Howard Beach, South Ozone Park, Laurelton and ends at Jamaica's John F. Kennedy International Airport, according to federal officials. Both pipes are operated by Pennsylvania-based Buckeye Pipeline Co. Roy Haase, a Buckeye spokesperson, said the LaGuardia pipeline runs for about five miles through Queens and that the company operates an estimated 35 miles of pipeline in the city. The pipes running to the airport are 12 inches in diameter, he said. The pipes carry a combined total of 8.4 million gallons of petroleum each day, Haase said. Jet fuel is carried through the pipes to the airports while another pipe sends other petroleum products, including home heating oil, diesel fuel and gasoline, to Long Island, he said.

Source: [http://www.timesledger.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=18442630&BRD=2676&PAG=461&dept\\_id=542415&rft=6](http://www.timesledger.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=18442630&BRD=2676&PAG=461&dept_id=542415&rft=6)

**18. *June 06, Associated Press* — London police set up roadblocks in hunt for tanker bombs.**

Gasoline tankers and chemical trucks entering London were stopped at police roadblocks in operations targeting a possible threat from truck bombs, counterterrorist officers said Wednesday, June 6. The new checks, which began earlier this year are designed to halt tankers or trucks being used by terrorists to carry bombs, London's Scotland Yard said. Officers have stepped up security of the capital since the July 7, 2005 subway and bus bombings, in which 52 commuters and the four attackers were killed. London was the center of a failed repeat transit network attack two weeks later, on July 21, 2005, and police and intelligence agents say they have prevented a number of other planned attacks.

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/06/06/europe/EU-GEN-Britain-Police-Tanker.php>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

19.

*June 08, Associated Press* — **African swine fever breaks out in Georgia.** The United Nations said Friday, June 8, that an outbreak in Georgia of African swine fever, a contagious viral disease in pigs, could have a "catastrophic" economic impact unless its spread is halted. It has the potential for wide international spread, and the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) warned that neighboring Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia should be on high alert. Georgia reported that outbreaks began at the end of April in 10 regions across the country, and that 20,000 pigs had already been slaughtered. Georgia only has about a half-million pigs. Jan Slingenbergh, a senior animal health officer at the FAO, said the outbreak was particularly of concern since African swine fever had been nearly confined to sub-Saharan Africa since 1990. FAO said the virus probably entered Georgia through imported frozen or processed pig meat. Pigs can get it by eating infected meat or tissues or by contact with infected animals or contaminated equipment.

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/06/08/europe/EU-GEN-UN-G-eorgia-Swine-Fever.php>

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## **Food Sector**

20. *June 08, Reuters* — **China rejects U.S. capsules, raisins for bacteria.** China said on Friday, June 8, it had destroyed or returned nutritional supplement capsules and raisins imported from the U.S. after detecting a higher-than-normal amount of bacteria. The move comes as China itself faces international criticism over a series of scandals that have plagued Chinese food, drugs and other products from poisoned cough syrup to tainted toothpaste and pet food. Health capsules imported from K-Max Health Products and CMO Distribution Centers of America, Inc. were detected to have high coliform and other bacteria, the quarantine bureau said. Raisins from Supervalu International also exceeded the Chinese standard, it said.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/PEK39659.htm>

21. *June 08, Associated Press* — **South Korea opens to U.S. beef imports.** South Korea lifted a de facto ban on American beef imports Friday, June 8, after the U.S. confirmed that only two shipments meant for domestic consumption were exported mistakenly, officials said. South Korea shut its doors to U.S. beef in December 2003 after an outbreak of mad cow disease in America. It partially reopened its market last year, but agreed to accept only boneless meat from cattle under 30 months old, which are thought to be less at risk of carrying the illness. Earlier this week Seoul said that it would not issue import certificates, however, until the U.S. explained how two banned shipments, intended for domestic consumption, arrived in South Korea.

Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci\\_6093056](http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci_6093056)

22. *June 07, Reuters* — **Colombia victims sue Chiquita for damages.** Victims of Colombian paramilitaries and rebels Thursday, June 7, filed for damages against Chiquita Brands after the U.S. fruit company pleaded guilty to paying protection money to an illegal armed group and agreed to a \$25 million fine, one of their attorneys said. A spokesperson for Chiquita did not return calls seeking comment about the civil suit filed in the U.S. federal court for the District of Columbia. Chiquita, one of the world's largest banana producers, agreed to a \$25 million fine after pleading guilty in March to paying off the violent AUC paramilitary group from 1997



to 2004, when it sold its local subsidiary. Colombia's AUC — the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia — is accused of some of the worst violence and massacres before it began disarming in 2003. The illegal militias began in the 1980s to counter the left-wing Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, guerrillas. "We filed a complaint in U.S. federal court for damages on behalf of the 144 people who had family members who were murdered by the AUC or the FARC during the period of time Chiquita was providing them support," Terry Collingsworth, an attorney with International Rights Advocates, told Reuters. Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19095370/>

23. *June 06, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Shark cartilage capsules recalled.** Action Labs, Inc. of Anaheim, CA, is voluntarily recalling its Sentinel brand Shark Cartilage Capsules manufactured in 2005 because they have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with Salmonella can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis. Routine testing performed recently at NBTY, Inc. (the manufacturer) shows that the recalled capsules have the potential to be contaminated with Salmonella. The Shark Cartilage Capsules were distributed to retail establishments in Southern California and internationally to Hong Kong. No illnesses have been reported to date.

Source: [http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/action06\\_07.html](http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/action06_07.html)

24. *June 05, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* — **Texas lab finds pain medicine in pet food.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is investigating a Texas laboratory's finding of acetaminophen in dog and cat food, an agency spokesperson said Monday, June 4. "We're very interested in being able to test these samples ourselves to determine the levels of those contaminants," said Doug Arbesfeld. "What's significant is these things are there. They don't belong there." The pain medication is the fifth contaminant found in pet foods during the past 2 1/2 months and can be toxic or lethal to pets, especially cats. It is not known if any animals became sick with acetaminophen poisoning, or died from it. "We were looking for cyanuric acid and melamine, and the acetaminophen just popped up," Donna Coneley, lab operations manager for ExperTox Inc. in Deer Park, TX, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. At least five dog and cat food samples submitted by worried pet owners and pet food manufacturers contained varying levels of the pain reliever, she said. The contaminants were found in foods that are not among the more than 150 brands recalled since March 16, Coneley said.

Source: [http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/mostread/s\\_510984.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/mostread/s_510984.html)

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## **Water Sector**

25. *June 09, San Francisco Chronicle* — **California to restart limited delta water pumping.** California said Friday, June 8, that it will resume limited operation of its delta pumps, a week after shutting off the giant machines that supply water to 25 million Californians but also grind up an endangered fish. The decision eased worries among some Bay Area water managers who

depend on water from the Sacramento–San Joaquin River Delta, but many agencies still want consumers to conserve. The Department of Water Resources shut down the pumps May 31 after biologists found a record–low number of delta smelt during trawls. The small fish is considered an indicator species that reflects the health of the delta's ecosystem. The fish normally swim early in the year near the pumps, which are close to Tracy, but head to cooler water by May. In late May, however, they were still idling nearby and getting sucked into the pumps, prompting fears that the fish could become extinct. The state moved to stop the pumps for the first time in several years. The Department of Water Resources said it would resume limited pumping on Sunday, June 10, to meet critical water needs.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/06/09/BAG4AQCISII.DTL>

- 26. *June 08, U.S. Geological Survey* — Record low water levels in May for North Carolina rivers.** Despite some rainfall at the end of the month, streamflows during May in North Carolina were at or near record low levels, particularly in the western part of the state. The U.S. Geological Survey has been monitoring and recording streamflow for more than 100 years at many locations throughout North Carolina, including the French Broad River at Asheville, which has been continuously monitored since 1895. Streamflows at this location in May were at or below the streamflow recorded on the same date in 2002, during the most recent severe drought. The lowest May streamflow on record was set at three monitoring stations with at least 30 years of record in North Carolina, with many other rivers approaching record lows. Groundwater levels also are declining across North Carolina, although the effects depend on the type of rock or sediment of specific aquifers. Water levels in the monitoring wells in Cherokee and Swain Counties are at an all time low for May.

Source: <http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=1690>

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## **Public Health Sector**

- 27. *June 08, Reuters* — Software donated to predict spread of diseases.** International Business Machines Corp., IBM, said on Friday, June 8, it is releasing software that can predict the spread of infectious diseases among countries. The software has been donated to scientists and public health officials to better plan responses to health crises. Software developers can customize the program — called the Spatiotemporal Epidemiological Modeler or STEM — to suit particular diseases and populations.

Source: [http://www.reuters.com/article/scienceNews/idUSN083029502007\\_0608](http://www.reuters.com/article/scienceNews/idUSN083029502007_0608)

- 28. *June 08, World Health Organization* — Improved meningitis vaccine for Africa could signal eventual end to deadly scourge.** The Meningitis Vaccine Project (MVP) Friday, June 8, released new data on the performance of a meningitis vaccine in West African children, suggesting that the new vaccine —expected to sell initially for 40 U.S. cents a dose — will be much more effective in protecting African children and their communities than any vaccine currently on the market in the region. MVP, a partnership between the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Seattle–based nonprofit, PATH, is collaborating with a vaccine producer, Serum Institute of India Limited (SIIL), to produce the new vaccine against serogroup A *Neisseria meningitidis* (meningococcus). The preliminary results of their study, a Phase 2 vaccine trial, reveal that the vaccine could eventually slash the incidence of epidemics

in the “meningitis belt,” as 21 affected nations of sub-Saharan Africa are collectively known. The vaccine is expected to block infection by the serogroup A meningococcus, and therefore extend protection to the entire population, including the unvaccinated, a phenomenon known as “herd immunity.”

Source: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2007/pr28/en/index.html>

29. *June 08, Agence France-Presse* — **APEC agree to share bird flu samples.** Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) health ministers agreed Friday, June 8, to share samples of the bird flu virus to help develop effective vaccines, setting aside disputes over who “owns” the disease. The 21-nation group wrapped up a meeting in Australia by signing a declaration committing them to share samples of the H5N1 virus, which the World Health Organization says has killed 188 people worldwide since 2003. Indonesia refused to share bird flu virus samples with foreign laboratories last December in a dispute over intellectual property rights. While Jakarta resumed virus-sharing last month, it remains concerned about the possibility that multinational drug companies would use an Indonesian bird flu virus to develop vaccines that poor countries cannot afford.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070608/hl\\_afp/healthfluapecmee\\_t\\_070608065318;\\_ylt=Ar4wksvxPRy\\_ex4B865NdomJOrgF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070608/hl_afp/healthfluapecmee_t_070608065318;_ylt=Ar4wksvxPRy_ex4B865NdomJOrgF)

30. *June 08, Los Angeles Times* — **West Nile virus cases rose in 2006.** The number of West Nile virus infections in the U.S. rebounded last year, reaching the highest point since 2003, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported. The CDC recorded nearly 4,300 West Nile cases, including about 1,500 patients who developed neuroinvasive disease — a more severe form of infection that encompasses encephalitis, meningitis and muscle weakness or paralysis. The highest number of infections occurred in Idaho, with 996 cases; Texas, with 354 cases; and Colorado, with 345 cases. The agency reported 177 deaths related to West Nile virus last year. The total number of infections last year represents a significant increase over 2004 and 2005, when the CDC recorded 2,539 and 3,000 cases respectively.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-westnile8jun08.1.6482733.story?coll=la-headlines-nation>

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## **Government Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

31. *June 07, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **President declares major disaster for Oklahoma.** The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for the state of Oklahoma to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding during the period of May 4–11, 2007. FEMA Administrator David Paulison said the assistance was authorized under a major disaster declaration issued for

the state by President Bush. The President's action makes federal funding available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding in Atoka, Beckham, Blaine, Caddo, Comanche, Dewey, Ellis, Greer, Kay, Kiowa, Lincoln, Noble, Nowata, Okfuskee, Pottawatomie, Roger Mills, and Seminole counties.

Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=36850>

- 32. *June 07, Oroville Mercury Register (CA)* — Remodeled Emergency Command Center opens in California.** Butte County, CA, Fire Department celebrated their newly remodeled Emergency Command Center with a special open house on Tuesday, June 5. Battalion Chief David Hawks welcomed local dignitaries, fire chiefs, battalion chiefs, captains, emergency dispatchers, firefighters, paramedics, family, friends, and visitors to a special cake-cutting ceremony next door to the Emergency Command Center (ECC). The extensive remodeling effort of the ECC began in mid-February and was completed in the beginning of May this year. While the ECC was being "gutted" and remodeled, the emergency dispatchers operated in the adjacent building, which also serves as an expanded ECC when there is a major wildfire and additional resources need to be coordinated and called to the scene, Hawks said. The cost of the remodeling was \$860,000, and this included not only the upgrades, consoles, technology, new computers, but also the mountain-top repeaters required to transmit the calls over a long distance. The upgraded ergonomics also allows the communication specialists to be able to answer the calls while standing up which provides more of a variety of postures.

Source: [http://www.orovillemr.com/news/ci\\_6079146](http://www.orovillemr.com/news/ci_6079146)

- 33. *June 07, KXAN-TV (TX)* — Austin officials test hurricane plan.** Austin, TX, emergency workers are putting their hurricane plans to the test this week, all in an effort to keep Texans and their families safe. Emergency management groups from across the state are taking part in a three-day drill that kicked off Wednesday morning, June 6. New evacuation routes have been implemented to try and avoid traffic tie-ups that drivers have experienced in the past.

Source: <http://www.kxan.com/Global/story.asp?S=6627123&nav=0s3d>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

- 34. *June 08, Government Computer News* — Navy CIO approves open source systems.**

Open-source software is now an official option for all information technology systems in the Navy and Marine Corps, according to a guidance memo issued June 5 by the Department of the Navy's Office of the Chief Information Officer. The Open-Source Guidance memo gives open-source platforms the same status as commercial off-the-shelf and government off-the-shelf software products, allowing Navy IT administrators to evaluate open-source code in acquisitions. The department "recognizes the importance of [open-source software] to the warfighter and the need to leverage its benefits throughout the [Department of the Navy]," according to the memo issued by Navy CIO Robert Carey.

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1\\_no1/44441-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/44441-1.html)

## Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **General Sector**

Nothing to report.

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